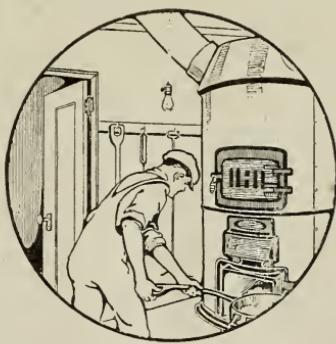


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SAVING FUEL IN HEATING



Keep the temperature of the house at 68°, never higher unless there are old people, young children, or invalids in the house.

Weather strips, storm windows, storm doors, and drawn shades save heat. In using storm windows arrange for ventilation.

Do not heat unused rooms. With a hot-water system, cover unheated radiators with heavy slip covers or newspapers to prevent freezing.

Cover heaters and heat-carrying pipes with asbestos or asbestos cement to prevent heat escaping where it is not needed.

Fuel saved is money saved—and money saved grows when put into War Savings Stamps.

Thrift Leaflet No. 12

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & TREASURY DEPARTMENT



CARE OF HEATERS

Soot and ashes. Keep all heaters clean. Soot and ashes reduce effective heating. Scrape them from the firepot and the section above it. Occasionally take down the smokepipe and brush out the soot. Soot in the chimney interferes with the draft and may cause chimney fires.

Leaks. Leaks cause cross drafts and interfere with the burning of the fire and the circulation of the heated air. Fill cracks in the heater with cement. Mend or replace leaky pipes.

Dampers. The smokepipe should have two dampers, the check draft damper and the turn damper. The *check draft* damper controls the rate at which a fire burns; open it to check a fire; close it to increase the draft. Learn to use it so that it will do its work. If it is properly constructed and managed you can check the fire with it without opening the coaling door.

The *turn damper* fits loosely so that gases may pass off even when it is closed. In most heaters the damper should be kept closed except when starting the fire, otherwise most of the heat goes up the chimney.

The *damper* in the *coaling door* should be used only to let in air to consume gases that are formed, especially when soft coal is used.

The *ash-pit damper* admits air necessary for the ignition of the coal or wood. Regulate the air supply by the damper—not by opening the ash-pit door.

Summer storage. There is danger of rust when a stove or furnace stands unused for some time. Smokepipes should be taken down, cleaned, and stored in a dry place. The doors should be left open to keep the interior dry; a lump of unslaked lime on the grate will collect the moisture and thus prevent rust. Leave the boiler of a steam or hot-water heater filled with water up to the safety valve.

Building a fire.

Close all dampers.

Shake the grate to remove ashes, dust, or clinkers from the firepot.

Remove ashes.

Put in some rumpled newspaper with an occasional twist in it.

Cover with kindlings laid criss cross or loosely to allow air space. Use fine kindlings at the bottom with sticks of soft wood on top, if necessary.

Add a thin layer of coal; or for a wood fire a layer of hard wood. Open the ash pit and smokepipe dampers. Light the paper.

When the fuel is burning freely, fill the firepot, close the damper in the ash pit and adjust that in the smokepipe, closing it entirely or only partially, according to the kind of heater.

CARE OF FIRE

For good heating regular care is needed.

Attend to the fire from two to four times a day, according to the weather.

In adding a large amount of coal, leave part of the glowing fire exposed.

Put only a little coal on a low fire.

In severe weather fill the firepot with coal the last thing at night.

The first thing in the morning, open the dampers and add a sprinkling of coal. When the fire is burning well, shake it and add more coal.

Ash-pits. Clean daily. Ashes cut off the air supply and also cause the grate to burn out and warp. Spray the ashes, if possible, before removing them.

Grates. A short, quick stroke of the shaker sifts ashes through the grate.

In mild weather have a bed of ashes on top of the grate. In severe weather shake until a glow appears in the ash-pit. Always leave the grate set level.

Firepot. Keep it full; you get better heat if the fuel is kept even with the fire door in front and a little higher in the back. Never poke the fire bed; poking makes draft holes and clinkers.

Special directions for the use of soft coal. Open the damper in the coaling door, or if there is no damper, open the door itself. This admits the air necessary to burn the gases. Always allow some red coals to remain exposed so that the gas from the fresh coal will pass over the glowing coals and be burned. Clean the smokepipe once a week. Do not try to burn soft coal in a hard-coal furnace without changing the grate and vice versa.

SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS

Hot-air heaters. In these, air is heated in the outer chamber of the furnace and forced up into the rooms through the pipes and registers. If this air is taken from out-of-doors, the supply should be regulated, especially when it is very cold or the wind drives it in rapidly. Recirculation of air is often advisable and there are systems in which the air to be heated is taken from the rooms instead of from out-of-doors. A system in which the air may be supplied either from out-of-doors or from the house is economical of fuel.

See that all joints in hot-air pipes are tight—holes act like check dampers. Keep the water container in the jacket filled.

SPEND WISELY



SAVE SANELY

Hot-water heaters. All radiators must be entirely filled; the partly filled radiator is not efficient. Open air valves frequently, especially those on the top floor, until the first drop of water appears. If none comes there is not enough water in the system and more should be added.

Keep the system filled with water even when there is no fire, to prevent rusting; but if a house is to be closed for the winter, drain the water out of the system to prevent freezing.

Steam heaters. Look at the glass water gauge whenever you attend to the fire. Turn the cocks above and below the gauge frequently to keep the openings from the boiler clear.

Keep the water gauge half full—more water uses steam space; less may damage the heater. If no water shows in the glass, more is needed; but smother the fire with damp ashes and let the boiler cool before adding it or you may have an explosion.

Be sure your air valves work properly. Poor ones cause most of the trouble in steam-heating systems. They are intended to let the air escape and the steam fill the radiators.

Paint for radiators. Radiators finished with either ordinary or enameled paint give off more heat than those finished with aluminum or copper bronze.

Supplementary heating. Where there is a central heating system, fuel may be saved by having small oil, gas, coal, or wood stoves to use when only enough heat is needed to take the chill off a room. Be sure and allow for ventilation when using them. Electric stoves are also convenient where the current is not too costly for their use to be economical. Fireplaces may also be used; they let much of the heat from the fuel escape up the chimney, but they provide good ventilation.

THEN BUY WAR

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SAVINGS STAMPS